

Illinois State

Perfusion Society

30th Annual Educational Conference

October 11th, 2025, 7am-4pm

Presented In-Person at Pinstripes Conference Center Oak Brook, IL and
Virtually via Zoom



Illinois State Perfusion Society

On behalf of the ISPS Board of Directors, Welcome to the 30th Annual Illinois State Perfusion Society Educational Conference! As you may have noticed, this is significant anniversary year for our professional organization – 30 years! - of providing perfusion education directly to clinically practicing perfusionists.

We are excited this year to provide you with an exciting agenda filled with extremely up-to-date academic and clinical lectures, new industry and product information, and interactive topic discussions. Your presenters are all nationally recognized experts in their respective fields and excited to share their individual research and scientific advancements.

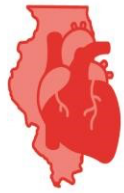
30 years ago, Suzanne DeWitt regularly gathered a group of local practicing perfusionists to discuss the rapidly growing and changing practice of perfusion. Her purpose and intention was to improve perfusion practice for better patient outcomes. The original discussion group included Thomas Murphy, Richard Heckel, Greg Mork, Carole Davis, and Michael Djuric. After a period of regular meetings, Suzanne realized a bigger formalized need to provide perfusion education to all practicing perfusionists, not just in Illinois. And shortly thereafter, Suzanne and the members above chartered the Illinois State Perfusion Society – three decades ago.

When I reflect on the vision of Suzanne DeWitt and her purpose in forming the ISPS, two major things stand out above many: Advancing Perfusion Education and Professional Volunteer Service. It is easy to see not only the passion Suzanne had in both these areas, but what is more impressive is the motivation and energy she had to drive them forward. The ISPS meetings have not only provided hundreds of CEU hours to practicing perfusionists, but more importantly, have empowered those perfusionists to improve their individual practices leading to better patient care and outcomes - as a renewing and everlasting effect of Suzanne's work.

I humbly ask each of you to reflect on, and share in, Suzanne's vision and chose your own personal way to drive perfusion education and professional volunteer service forward. Outside of immediate patient care, these two areas can provide the biggest impact to patients and our profession, yet somehow, they seem to require the biggest need. Whether it be volunteering with a local perfusion society, or sitting on the board of the ABCP, or working extra one-on-one time with students, please remember - your profession needs you in many ways. Let's commit, together, to Suzanne's vision and find our own individual ways to contribute in moving our incredible and rewarding profession forward.

We hope you enjoy this year's educational conference and use its contents to share with your coworkers to improve your perfusion practice.

Ryan Piech, MS, MBA, CCP
President, Illinois State Perfusion Society



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30th Annual Educational Conference

In Person at Pinstripes, Oak Brook, IL and Virtually via Zoom
October 11th, 2025

Academic Agenda and Schedule of Events

Times Listed in Central Time

0630: On-site Registration Opens, Vendor Exhibits Open, Light Breakfast Served

0645: Webinar Opens, via Zoom

0645: Conference Opening Welcome, Ryan Piech, MS, MBA, CCP

Illinois State Perfusion Society President's Welcome

0700-0730: Clay Strawn

Student, Rush University School of Cardiovascular Perfusion, Chicago, IL

"Blood Glucose Management for Cardiopulmonary Bypass: A New Perspective"

0730-0815: Kumaran Shanmugarajah, MD, PhD

Transplant Surgeon, Director Organ Perfusion Laboratory, University of Chicago Medicine, Chicago, IL

"The Perfusionists' Increasing Role in Liver and Multi-Organ Transplantation"

0815-0900: Kristen Nelson-McMillan, MD

Pediatric Cardiac Intensivist, Advocate Hope Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn, IL

"The Role of Platelets in Pediatric MCS: The Love-Hate Relationship"

0900-0945: Michael G. Moront, MD

Attending Surgeon, Senior Clinical Advisor Haemonetics Corporation

The Toledo Hospital, Toledo, Ohio

"Leveraging Perfusionist Knowledge and Skillset in Adjunct Procedural Therapies"

0945-1030: Allison Davila, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery, Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL

"Antegrade Cerebral Perfusion in Complex Congenital Surgeries"

1030-1115: Kirsten Kallies, MS, CCP, LP

Secretary, American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion

“Updates From the ABCP – 50 Years of Excellence”

1115-1215: ISPS Award Presentations, Lunch Served, Vendor Exhibits

Walter Foody Memorial Scholarship Award

3rd Annual Scholarship Award Presented to Outstanding Perfusion Student

In Honor and Remembrance of Walter Foody, CCP

1215-1245: Panel Discussion: Hot Topics in Perfusion Practice

Moderators: ISPS Board of Directors

1245-1330: Royce Lee, MD

Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

“The Science of Resilience in High-Performance Medicine: Managing the Ups and Downs of Burnout, Traumatic Stress, and Moral Injury”

1330-1415: Alex O'Donnell, CCP

Staff Perfusionist, Advocate Hope Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn, IL

“Reflecting on the Perfusionist's Role in Acute Decision Making”

1415-1445: Marina McMahon

Student, Lipscomb School of Cardiovascular Perfusion, Nashville, TN

Case Report: “Complex Congenital Re-do Heart Transplant with BiVAD Support”

1445-1515: Nadine Kadadu

Student, Rush University School of Cardiovascular Perfusion, Chicago, IL

“Atelectasis and Race: Does Race Have an Effect on CPB Outcome”

1515-1800: Adjournment, Open Bar & Cocktail Hour, Bowling, Bocce Ball

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Crescent™ RA
Jugular Dual
Lumen Catheter



Nautilus™ Smart
ECMO Module



Bio-Medicus Life
Support™
Cannulae



VitalFlow™
Console



Illinois State

Perfusion Society

**The Illinois State Perfusion Society is seeking
BOARD MEMBERS and COMMITTEE MEMBERS!**

Join our fantastic team of Chicago-area perfusionists to give-back to your profession and colleagues by volunteering with the ISPS! Executive Board, Board, and Committee positions are open!

Contact any current board member OR
email: **IllinoisPerfusion@gmail.com** for more information! We look
forward to working with you!



Illinois State
Perfusion Society

30th ISPS Course Faculty

Clay Strawn



Clay Strawn is a second-year Perfusion student at Rush University, originally from Eastern Tennessee. He has a professional background as a Registered Nurse and ECMO Specialist and currently serves on the student council for AmSECT. Clay is completing his clinical rotation at Loyola University Medical Center and is expected to graduate in May 2026.

Dr. Kumaran Shanmugarajah

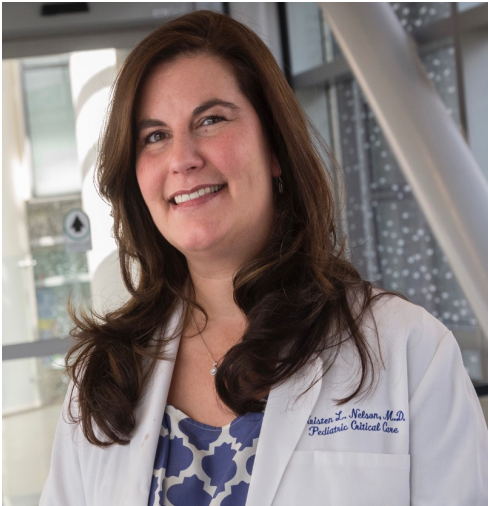


Kumaran Shanmugarajah is an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Section of Transplant Surgery at the University of Chicago. His areas of clinical interest are in deceased donor liver transplantation, living donor liver transplantation and use of *ex vivo* machine perfusion to maximize organs available for transplant.

Dr Shanmugarajah runs a research laboratory focusing on altering organ immune function during *ex vivo* machine perfusion to optimize the outcomes of liver transplantation.

He obtained his medical degree and doctorate at Imperial College London. He completed his surgical training at Oxford University and the University of Chicago. He is board certified in general surgery. He completed fellowship in abdominal transplant and hepatobiliary surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Kristen Nelson-McMillan, MD



Dr. Kristen Nelson McMillan completed her medical school at LSU, followed by pediatric residency and chief residency at LSU. She then completed pediatric critical care fellowship training at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. She was appointed the inaugural Director of the Pediatric Cardiac ICU and Pediatric Ventricular Assist Device Program at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland from 2012-2019. In 2019, she was recruited to help build a VAD and transplant program in Illinois. She is now the Medical Director of Advanced Pediatric Heart Failure, Pulmonary Hypertension and VAD programs at Advocate Children's Heart Institute and Comer Children's Hospital at the University of Chicago Medicine. Her research interests include coagulation assessment and anticoagulation management of complex pediatric cardiac patients within these programs.

Dr. Michael Moront

Dr. Moront is a graduate of Boston College and attended Georgetown University Medical School. He completed his General Surgery Residency at Georgetown University Medical Center and was an American Heart Research Fellow studying ECMO in Neonates. Cardiac Surgical training was completed at the University of Alabama Birmingham.

Dr. Moront has been in Toledo Ohio for more than thirty years and has performed more than 10,000 cardiothoracic procedures including more than 1000 Minimally Invasive Valve procedures. In addition to his minimally invasive cases, he specializes in complex redo valve, root procedures and aortic arch reconstruction.

He has served as a trainer for minimally invasive valve procedures and Maze Procedures for more than 15 years.

In his free time, he enjoys fly fishing, quail hunting, cooking and cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Dr. Allison Davila



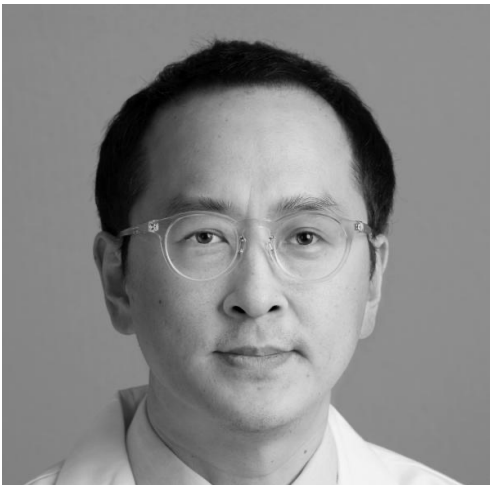
Dr. Allison Beckham Davila is an Assistant Professor in the Northwestern Medicine Department of Surgery and Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. She attended North Central College on a Presidential Scholarship and graduated *summa cum laude* with a B.S. in biology. She subsequently attended Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine with the Mary Beth Richmond Scholarship, where she met her husband, plastic surgeon Dr. Armando Davila. She decided there to pursue a career in pediatric cardiac surgery, and subsequently matched into general surgery residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center in Southern California and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles studying the embryonic origins of congenital heart disease. She furthered her career by matching into cardiothoracic surgery fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Her surgical training culminated in a fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital specializing in pediatric cardiac surgery.

Dr. Davila has a great interest in education and mentorship, having participated in the Northwestern Alumni mentorship program for several years. She has a strong clinical interest in neonatal surgery and is currently investigating neurological outcomes in premature infants after cardiopulmonary bypass. As a researcher, she has investigated pediatric and adult heart transplant outcomes, which was the aspect of cardiac surgery that initially compelled her to pursue cardiothoracic surgical training. Most recently, she has investigated outcomes after surgery for pulmonary vein stenosis which she recently presented on at The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Annual Meetings.

Kirsten Kallies

Kirsten Kallies is a clinical associate professor and the MS Perfusion clinical program director in the M.S. Perfusion program in the (ECBE) Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering department. She has been a faculty member at MSOE since 2009. Kirsten is currently a Certified Clinical Perfusionist for the Medical College of Wisconsin and Advocate Aurora Healthcare. Previously she held a similar role with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Heart Group, SC.

Royce Lee, MD



Royce Lee, MD is an adult psychiatrist and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience at The University of Chicago. He studies the neurobiology of stress and trauma, and directed the Disaster Recovery Program during the Covid-19 pandemic. He is the Quality Chief for the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience, Vice Chair of the IRB of the Biological Sciences Division, and director of the Trauma and Personality Disorder clinic. In his spare time, he enjoys table tennis and electronic music making.

Alex O'Donnell

Alex O'Donnell is a pediatric perfusionist at Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL. He graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.S. in Integrative Physiology and attended University of Iowa Perfusion Technology Education Program graduate 2014. Alex has 11 years of perfusion experience encompassing 6 years at University of Chicago, 2 years with Perfusion Technologists of Greater Chicago, and 3 years and counting at Hope Children's Hospital. Alex is interested in investigating AKI and cerebral protection during CPB. In his free time, he enjoys bonding with his wife and two beautiful daughters. There's one more on the way, fingers crossed for the boy. Alex is also passionate about physical fitness, most recently running. He also plays hockey and golf.

Marina McMahon



Marina is a cardiovascular perfusion student at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee. Her academic and clinical interests center on congenital heart surgery, single ventricle physiology, and optimizing perfusion strategies for better patient outcomes. She is currently developing a capstone project exploring predictors of Fontan Circulatory Failure, and the timing of surgical intervention. Marina is passionate about patient care, and building her career through clinical training, research, and relationships within the perfusion community.

Nadine Kadadu



Before attending Rush University Perfusion school, Nadine completed her BSN in 2016. Her three perfusion rotations include Mercy One in Des Moines, Baptist Health in Miami, and Northwestern in Chicago, with an anticipated graduation date of 2026. Nadine is originally from the north suburbs of Atlanta.

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Walter Foody Memorial Scholarship



2025 Award Recipient: Chayanne Pollard

Walter Foody Memorial Scholarship

The Walter Foody Memorial Scholarship is presented annually by the Walter Foody Foundation to an exemplary perfusion student who best displays many of the same professional qualities that Walt embodied each and every day of his greater than 40 year career.

Walt was a person who lived and breathed perfusion. He shared stories of terrible cases and wonderful successes, imparting invaluable wisdom that continues to shape the practices of those fortunate enough to have known him. Famously known as the originator of the "Walt maneuver" and the "Foody technique", the people who have worked with him for decades know exactly what these are and recognize their significance. As we watch the younger generation of perfusion students grow, we continue to teach these techniques and Walt's legacy continues. He was a stickler for rules and policies, read all the books and journals, and made us smarter perfusionists by simply being around him.

It is the hope of the Walter Foody Foundation to memorialize Walter's life, his professionalism, and his many great qualities through establishment of this scholarship and foundation. Through his work and dedication, he not only saved the lives of thousands of patients, but has mentored and trained many more perfusionists.

This scholarship is awarded to the student who best displays those qualities similar to Walter's of academic acumen, professional dedication, trustworthiness, helpfulness, and steadfast reliability. Most importantly, the student must display an unsurpassed level of compassion towards patients and their care just as he had installed in all of us.

We invite you to apply to this scholarship and continue Walt's dedication to the field of perfusion. This scholarship not only provides financial assistance, but also celebrates the spirit of Walt's life, inspiring new perfusionists to embody the same values. Seize the opportunity to honor Walter Foody's memory by pursuing your education and contributing to the perfusion community in a positive and meaningful way.



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30th Annual Illinois State Perfusion Society Educational Conference

Meeting Names

Ryan Piech

09/16/25

Applicant Name

Illinois State Perfusion Society

Approval Date

Program Sponsor

The American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (ABCP) has processed your application regarding recertification CEUs. After reviewing the program submitted, the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion will allot the following Category I CEUs to those perfusionists who attend the meeting:

Total Possible CEU Credit: 9.9

Meeting Start Date: 10/11/25

Meeting End Date: 10/11/25

Meeting sponsors are required to provide verification to all attendees in the form of an official document such as a letter or certificate, specifying the total number of CEU credit hours earned by that individual. This letter or certificate will serve as official verification of attendance and hours earned.

If you should have any questions or we can be of further assistance to you, please contact the National Office.

Sincerely,

Phillip Bailey | Executive Director

PJB/al



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Educational Conference Evaluation

Clay Strawn, Rush University Perfusion Student

“Blood Glucose Management for Cardiopulmonary Bypass: A New Perspective”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Kumaran Shanmugarajah, MD, PhD

“The Perfusionists’ Increasing Role in Liver and Multi-Organ Transplant”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Kristen Nelson-McMillan, MD

“The Role of Platelets in Pediatric MCS: The Love-Hate Relationship”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Royce Lee, MD

“Update: The Science of Resilience in Medicine, Managing Burnout”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Allison Davila, MD**“Antegrade Cerebral Perfusion in Complex Congenital Cardiac Surgeries”**

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Michael G. Moront , MD**“Leveraging Perfusionist Knowledge and Skillset in Adjunct Procedural Therapies”**

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Kirsten Kallies, MS, CCP, LP**“Updates from the ABCP – 50 years of Excellence”**

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Alex O'Donnell, MS, CCP, LP**“Reflecting on the Perfusionist’s Role in Acute Decision Making”**

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Marina McMahon, Lipscomb University Perfusion Student

“Complex Congenital Re-do Heart Transplant with BiVad Support”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1

Nadine Kadadu, Rush University Perfusion Student

“Atelectasis and Race: Does Race Have an Effect on CPB Outcome”

This program was helpful to my educational needs	5	4	3	2	1
Rate the preparation & presentation of the speaker	5	4	3	2	1
Rate content and application of the information	5	4	3	2	1





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Illinois State
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ISPS Board of Directors and Conference Program Committee

President

Ryan Piech, MS, MBA, CCP

Ryan currently serves as the Director and Chief of Perfusion for University of Chicago Medicine and its affiliate hospitals, where he has practiced for the past 23 years. Prior to University of Chicago, he worked at Columbia New York Presbyterian Hospital for 1.5 years, immediately after graduating perfusion school (MS) in New York. In 2013, he graduated from University of Notre Dame's School of Business with his MBA. Ryan has served the perfusion community throughout his career volunteering with local and national perfusion organizations; including serving the Illinois State Perfusion Society for over 10 years.

In February 2020, Ryan was inducted as a Fellow Member into the American Academy of Cardiovascular Perfusion. He has been an invited speaker at numerous educational conferences; both local and national. He frequently travels to several perfusion schools to present as a guest lecturer. Ryan's clinical interests include heart failure and transplant, MCS, and robotic cardiac surgery. Ryan is a founding member of University of Chicago's Organ Perfusion Laboratory where his research interests include studies surrounding heart, lung, and liver methods for transplantation donor pool expansion, methods for increasing organ ischemic time, blood alternatives, and bloodless surgery. Outside of work Ryan enjoys staying active, listening to music, and spending time with family and friends.

Vice President

Meghan Meyer, BA, CCP

Meghan has worked at University of Chicago Medicine for the last 13 years and currently serves as the Assistant Chief of Perfusion for the hospital and its affiliate locations. Prior to University of Chicago, Meghan worked in private practice with Illinois Perfusion Technology, immediately following her graduation from University of Iowa Perfusion School where she simultaneously earned her BA degree in Biology. Meghan has mentored many prospective perfusion students (and even hired some!) and is currently in the process of starting the UCM Perfusion Student Mentorship Program. Her clinical interests include rare and complex perfusion cases as well as minimally invasive surgery. Meghan is a perennial supporter of the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, where she has spent many hours volunteering. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her two daughters and dogs, working out, and baking.

Secretary

Curtis Eldridge, MS, CCP

Curtis is currently working in the role of Perfusionist at Northwestern Palos Hospital for the last 3 years. Prior to his transition to Palos, Curtis spent 23 years at Rush University Medical Center. He worked and served as Assistant Director of Perfusion in the Department of Extracorporeal Technology at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, IL. Additionally, he was a perfusion instructor in the Perfusion Technology Department of Cardiopulmonary Sciences at Rush University. He also served as Clinical-Coordinator at John H. Stroger Jr, Hospital of Cook County. No stranger to volunteer work, Curtis has served on numerous boards and in several perfusion groups throughout his career. Away from the hospital, Curtis enjoys cycling and managing his two sons in basketball and baseball.

Treasurer

Steve Moss, BS, CCP

Mr. Moss is a graduate from the Penn State School of Perfusion. Currently, he works at Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL, as a pediatric perfusionist since joining their program in 2006. Prior, he was perfusionist at University of Chicago, and University of Virginia doing both Pediatric and Adult perfusion cases. Steve graciously volunteers his time and has served on several perfusion-related boards including the Illinois State Perfusion Society (ISPS) and the Chicagoland Perfusion Foundation (CPF). Additionally, Steve is a Clinical Instructor for both Rush University and Midwestern University Perfusion Schools.

Having a passion for travel, Steve has taught perfusion and pumped pediatric cases on many pediatric cardiac surgery mission trips in many different countries throughout the world. Steve lives in Berwyn, IL and spends most of his free time with his two sons, enjoying outdoor activities, and traveling abroad.

Senior Director

Dave Durdov, MS, CCP, FPP

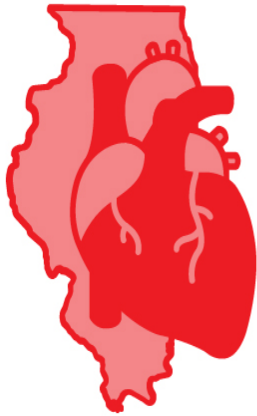
Dave is a pediatric perfusionist at Lurie Children's Hospital as well as an assistant professor at Rush University. At Rush, he serves as the perfusion clinical coordinator and course director for Anatomy & Physiology and Congenital Pediatric Heart Disease. Dave graduated with a B.S. from Rush University Perfusion Technology Program in 1996. In 2005, he graduated with a M.S. from Rush University Health Systems Management Program. In his free time, Dave coaches his son's hockey team and is a drummer in a rock band.

Director

Blaine Johnson MBA, CCP, LP

Blaine A. Johnson, MBA, CCP, LP, is a Perfusionist at UChicago Medicine in Chicago, Illinois, where he leads EPIC Integration for Perfusion and ECMO/AMCS. Additionally, he is an Adjunct Assistant Professor within the Perfusion Education Program at the University of Iowa Health Care, Carver College of Medicine in Iowa City, Iowa.

Blaine is a proud alumnus of Texas Heart Institute with over five years of experience. His practice primarily involves adult perfusion with a clinical interest in ECMO/AMCS, transplantation, and bloodless cardiac surgery. In addition, he is an advocate for innovation, with a passion for perfusion education and research interest in ex vivo organ perfusion. Blaine currently serves as the Chair of Government Relations for the Illinois State Perfusion Society and is the Zone 1,2 Representative for AmSECT's Government Relations Committee.



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THANK YOU!

Please Join Us Next Year !